

Amendment
Application No.: 08/904,056
Filing Date: 31 July 1997

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. through 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A mouse device for a computer incorporating a multimedia device, comprising:

a housing;

a mouse button within the housing to control an operation of the computer;

a cursor control device coupled to the housing;

at least one multimedia control device disposed within the housing to control only the multimedia device of the computer;

a connection that transmits signals generated by the mouse button, cursor control device and multimedia control device to the computer; and

wherein the at least one control device directly controls at least one function of the multimedia device of the computer in a single step and without the use of a menu or other graphic display.

24 through 25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the signals generated by the mouse button, cursor control device and multimedia control device are packetized prior to transmission over the connection.

27. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the connection is compatible with a serial port on the computer.

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28. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the multimedia control device comprises a volume control slider or wheel for providing direct volume control of the multimedia device.

29. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the multimedia control device comprises multiple actuators for directly controlling functions of a CD-ROM drive, wherein one or more such functions are selected from the group consisting of play, stop, next-track, previous-track, fast-forward, and fast-backward.

30. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the multimedia control device comprises multiple actuators for directly controlling functions of a tuner, wherein one or more such functions are selected from the group consisting of next station or channel, previous station or channel, scan up the frequencies, scan down the frequencies, and preset stations.

31. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the multimedia control device comprises multiple actuators for directly controlling functions of a speaker, wherein one or more such functions are selected from the group consisting of volume, treble and base.

32. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23, wherein the cursor control device is selected from the group of pointing devices comprising a mouse, a touch pad, a trackball, and a joystick.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a multimedia device, the method comprising:

receiving a signal from a multimedia device control on a mouse coupled to a computer;

receiving a signal from a computer cursor positioning device on the mouse;

packetizing the signals;

sending the signals to the computer; and

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sending the multimedia device control signal from the computer to the multimedia device to provide to directly control at least one function of the multimedia device in a single step without the use of a menu via the mouse or other graphic display.

34. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a computer having at least processor, and a memory and a multimedia device operatively coupled to the computer;

a pointing device having a cursor control device, and a control for controlling a function of the multimedia device such that actuation of the control causes the computer to directly control the function of the multimedia device in a single step without a menu or other graphic display via the pointing device by actuation of the control; and

a connection that operatively couples the pointing device to a corresponding port of the computer through which all communication between the pointing device and the computer occurs.

35 through 36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the signals generated by the cursor control device and multimedia control device are packetized prior to communication over the connection.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the port is a serial port on the computer.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the multimedia device is integrated with the computer.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the multimedia device is selected from the group of multimedia devices comprising an amplifier operatively coupled to at least one speaker, a radio tuner, a television tuner, and an optical disc player capable of playing audio compact discs.

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41. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a computer having at least a processor, a memory and at least one multimedia device operatively integrated with the computer;
a housing;
a mouse button within the housing to control an operation on the computer;
a cursor control device coupled to the housing;
at least one multimedia control device disposed within the housing to control only the multimedia device of the computer;
a connection that transmits signals generated by the mouse button, cursor control device and multimedia control device to the computer;
and wherein the at least one control device provides direct control of the multimedia device of the computer in a single ~~step~~ without a menu or other graphic display.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the signals generated by the mouse button, cursor control device and multimedia control device are packetized prior to transmission over the connection, and wherein the connection comprises a radio frequency transceiver.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein said at least one multimedia device comprises a plurality of multimedia devices and said at least one multimedia control device comprises a plurality of multimedia control devices located on different parts of said housing, at least two of said control devices control different multimedia devices of said plurality of multimedia devices, and said plurality of multimedia devices comprising at least two of an amplifier operatively coupled to at least one speaker, a radio tuner, a television tuner and an optical disc player capable of playing audio compact discs.

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44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the multimedia control device comprises a volume control slider or wheel for providing direct volume control of the multimedia device.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33 wherein the multimedia control device comprises a volume control slider or wheel for providing direct volume control of the multimedia device.

46. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 34 wherein the multimedia control device comprises a volume control slider or wheel for providing direct volume control of the multimedia device.